

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD



THE STATUE OF CHRIST ON MOUNT CORCOVADO OVERLOOKING RIO DE JANEIRO

(See first note, page 101)

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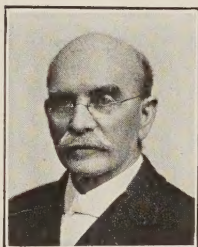
Breaking Ground and Welcoming a Convention

THE weaving together of incidents and facts often brings out relations and factors. The odd title to this article is appropriate. There is a relation between the two events. As so often the case, it will be found in a person.

Breaking Ground

February 16 was a red-letter day for Bible work in Brazil. On it the ground was broken for the Bible House in Rio, for which the Rev. H. C. Tucker, D.D., particularly, and others in Brazil, have been looking so long and eagerly.

The site chosen is on the "esplanade" in the business center of the city. There, formerly, stood Castle Hill, an elevation of some five hundred feet, on which was founded, in 1567, the settlement now grown into the magnificent city of Rio de Janeiro. During the past decade, this old hill has been carried into the bay, adding a generous area to Rio's famed water



DR. TUCKER

front. But the great object attained was the making available, in the very heart of the business city, an area of some twenty acres. Here land, 64 feet front and 57 deep, was acquired for the Bible House; and here, the ground was broken before representatives of all the evangelical forces of Brazil.

A Scripture passage was read, and address made, by Dr. Tucker; prayer was offered by the Rev. João C. Braga, a leading evangelical pastor of Brazil and father of the Rev. Dr. Erasmo Braga, secretary of the Brazilian Committee on Cooperation, of whose lamented death, on May 11, from a brief illness of the heart word has just been received; the first spade of earth was removed by Dr. Tucker, and another by the Rev. Alexander Telford, Brazilian agent of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and thus was begun work on the Rio Bible House.

The building is planned to be a headquarters not only for the American Bible Society, but



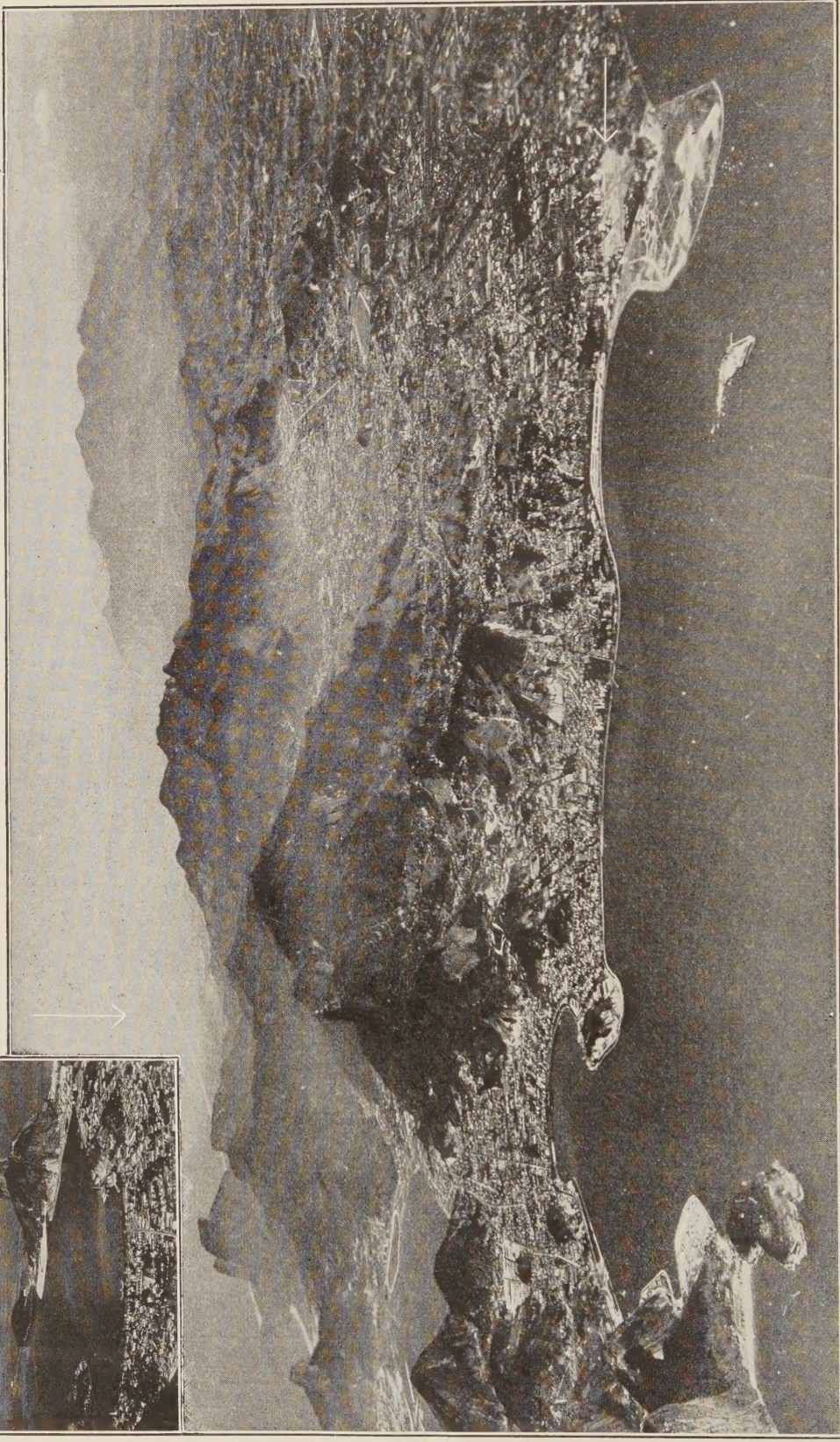
DR. TUCKER TELLING OF THE BIBLE SOCIETY WORK IN BRAZIL BEFORE
BREAKING GROUND FOR THE BIBLE HOUSE

The group represented all the evangelical forces in Brazil

In the background are the most important buildings of the new part of the city—the new Y. M. C. A. is at the extreme left

Inset: VIEW FROM CORCOVADO LOOKING EAST. RIO'S SENTINEL "SUGAR LOAF" AT RIGHT CENTER Entrance (upper left center) from the Atlantic (right) to Rio's beautiful harbor and great bay.

Below: AEROPLANE VIEW OF RIO'S WONDERFUL SETTING AND PART OF ITS FAMED WATER FRONT



Castle Hill stood in the cleared space at the lower right corner. See the white arrow. The Bible House is rising near the arrow head. The statue of Christ can be discerned on the summit of Corcovado (left center) below another arrow. The bay in the foreground of the inset is the same as the little indentation at the base of Corcovado in the larger picture, and the much of the city and all of its great steamship wharves extend out of sight to the right of this larger picture.

for allied agencies which promote the effectiveness of the Bible's teachings as applied to the world's needs. Conforming with the requirements (for this section) of the city authorities, there is to be erected a nine-story, modern, fireproof building. Gothic ornamentation has been chosen by the Society, and, as this is to be the first building erected on the block, this type of architecture will presumably set the style for that particular block. The mezzanine floor, with high ceiling, has been designated for the offices of the Brazilian Council of Religious Education, the Brazilian Committee on Cooperation, and the Brazilian branch of the World Woman's Christian Temperance Union. On this floor will also be an auditorium available for religious purposes, committee meetings, and the regular meetings of the Rio de Janeiro Christian Workers' Union. Here also, desk space will be provided for the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in Brazil, and the Federation of Evangelical Schools in Brazil. It is planned to equip the upper floors with modern conveniences for doctors and dentists—so that the new building should become in very truth a house of healing for the body and for the soul.

Welcoming a Convention

Christian forces throughout the world, especially those interested in Sunday schools, are looking forward to the World's Sunday School Convention to be held at Rio de Janeiro on July 25-31, 1932, the first world conference of Christians to be held in South America. While the Bible House will not be completed for the opening of this convention, the contractors do plan to finish off the ground and mezzanine

floors, so that the Bible Society's salesroom and offices, and the Evangelical Bookstore, may move in and open on the former, and the societies above mentioned may move in on the latter, and be functioning in their new quarters during the convention. Here then is one link.

The other link is in the person—our veteran, widely honored and influential Secretary, Dr. Hugh C. Tucker. He was a delegate from Brazil to the sixth World's Sunday School Convention at Washington, D. C., in 1910, and shortly thereafter was elected the executive secretary of the Brazil National Sunday School Union then formed, holding this post until 1920 and carrying on its duties in the office of the Bible Society. He secured the translation and publication of the first book to appear in Portuguese on the preparation and training of teachers; was an official delegate to the World's Sunday School Conventions, at Zurich, Switzerland, 1913, and Los Angeles in 1928, where he, with others, presented the official invitation, then accepted, to hold the next convention in Rio in 1932. He became a vice-chairman of the executive committee of the World Sunday School Association, and has been active in all the plans for the convention at Rio, securing from the municipal authorities the free use of its beautiful theatre for the convention. Thus Dr. Tucker, and, through him, the American Bible Society, have made real contributions toward the welcoming and success of the eleventh World's Sunday School Convention, and thus it is also that the Brazil Sunday School Union, of which the Rev. H. S. Harris is secretary, contemplates having its headquarters in the new Bible House. Is this not a real and a happy relationship?

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Notes and Comments

THE cover picture was chosen in honor of our Brazilian Agency and the World Sunday School Convention which is to gather in Rio de Janeiro from July 25 to 31, 1932. The statue, standing half a mile above the city, can be seen for many miles by land and sea. It is 125 feet high. The outstretched arms are 92 feet from finger tip to finger tip. It was ten years in planning and construction, the cost, \$250,000, being met chiefly by popular contributions. Its base contains a chapel. A well-made roadway gives easy access to the patient climber.

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THOSE interested in the distribution of the Scriptures will be encouraged by the annual

reports of the British and Scotch Bible Societies for the year 1931. The British and Foreign Bible Society announces a distribution of 10,552,284 volumes of Scripture. The National Bible Society of Scotland gives as its total for last year 4,615,109 volumes.

* * *

Combining the figures announced by the American, British, and Scotch Bible Societies, it appears that, last year, there were sent out by these three Societies alone, a total of 1,418,405 Bibles, 1,641,882 Testaments, and 21,852,462 Portions, or a grand total of 24,912,749 volumes of Scripture. These figures are apart from those of all other Bible publishing societies and commercial printing houses.

THE *Boston Transcript*, of May 14, under the title "The World's Best Seller," carried an editorial review of the Report of the American Bible Society nearly a column long. Emphasizing the continued demand for the Scriptures and asking the question, "Upon what does the demand for the Bible rest?" it gave, "as a part of the explanation," the intrinsic literary worth of the Bible, and enlarged on the fact that, in every language into which it is translated, "it readily becomes transcendent among books as an example of that language's capabilities."

* * *

The editorial goes on to close with this fine passage:

It is evident, however, that it is not so much its literary merits that have made the Bible the best seller as the fact that it is the postulated Word of God, and consequently the claimant of miraculous origin and the asserter of a miraculous message. It has become the Supreme Promise of the world. It answers to the demand of average humanity for a documentation of the supernatural. It endows the Christian religion with a greater hope of universality than any other religion can lay claim to.

THE name and voice of the Rev. Dr. W. Beatty Jennings, of Germantown, Pennsylvania, are known to many. Not so many know of an unusual labor of love by him which is reported in the Philadelphia *Bulletin*—a handwritten Bible. "The Bible, beautifully bound in tooled red morocco leather" in nine volumes, was handwritten by Dr. Jennings himself. The flyleaf of the first volume bears this dedication:

Copied (A. D. 1921-1924) for, and presented to, Arnold Huff Jennings, M.D., on his graduation from the Medical School of the University of Pennsylvania, June 18, 1924, as a father's token of devotion to a Christian son.

* * *

Dr. Jennings is quoted as saying:

I wanted to give him something out of the ordinary—something unique and at the same time deeply personal, that he could have and keep. So, instead of spending an hour or so a day in devotional reading as a minister is supposed to do, I spent the time writing devotionally.

FROM the Rev. A. M. Boggs, home department of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, comes this striking testimonial, illustrative of the "amazing power the Word of God has."

I was for twenty years a missionary of our society in South India. One day we baptized a woman who was absolutely unable to read or write. Her husband was also utterly illiterate. About two months later, that woman came to the mission station to see us. As she began to talk about her new-found Christian joy, we very quickly realized that she had a very great knowledge of Christian facts and truths—far more than we had ever had the time or opportunity to teach her. Upon inquiry, we found that she had bought a Gospel of St. Luke in Telugu (the language that she

spoke), and went each day to a Hindu merchant to have him read it to her. From that reading of that Gospel by a non-Christian merchant she had developed into a remarkably well-informed and extremely beautiful Christian character.

AMONG the nine reasons President Theodore Roosevelt is quoted, in a church calendar, as giving for going to church, the sixth reads:

He will listen to, and take part in, reading some beautiful passages from the Bible. And, if he is not familiar with the Bible, he has suffered a loss.

A COPY of the *Guatemala News*, the organ of the Guatemala Mission of the Presbyterian Church, has reached us through the courtesy of Mr. R. C. Tillinghast, of our Board of Managers. It contains the following interesting reference to the Secretary of our Caribbean Agency:

We have been helped and cheered as usual by a visit of the Rev. Raymond Gregory, American Bible Society's Agent, in Colon. He is a live wire either in the office, the pulpit, the tennis court, the outfield, the hurricane deck of a mule or in the element of the birds and angels. The other day, he went to Quetzaltenango by airplane, but couldn't alight on account of fog; so the aviator, having to go to Cobán, took him on across there, where they had the misfortune to strike another fog bank and couldn't land. They came back to Guatemala, having covered a good section of the republic, but without being able to attend to any business. It was the one rare case when one may lose time by taking a plane. He has the satisfaction of having got the worth of his money, as his extra rides didn't cost him anything, and, besides, better that way than a miscalculation and a crash into a crag in a fog. They play safe now. He is a man we are always glad to see.

A CLIPPING sent us from the January 23, 1932, issue of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) *Citizen* contains the following among its striking statements:

PARIS—A revival of personal religion is taking place in Europe, if the increased number of sales of the Bible is an indication. Reports from bookshops and manufacturers show that the Bible has increased its annual sales in the past three years from 500,000 to nearly 3,000,000 copies. * * *

In Italy, instead of selling rosaries and pictures of saints in the streets, monks and nuns are now selling Bibles. In France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, and Belgium, the number of books containing portions of the Scriptures sold in the past year was 1,146,210—which is 82,387 more than in 1930. The circulation of such books in western Europe, including Great Britain, has almost doubled in the last ten years.

FROM North Carolina, a lady, holding one of our annuity agreements, last month sent this very acceptable message:

No investment I have made at any time has brought me the genuine satisfaction this one has, and I shall continue to reserve your returns to me as a sacred fund for just such emergencies (mentioned in the first part of her letter), thus making the whole serve in revolving capacity for spreading the kingdom of God.

The Romance of the Miao

By the Rev. Robert Irwin, B.D., Retired Secretary, Siam Agency

IT is a decade since we undertook work for the hill tribes—Muso, Miao, Yao, Kamu, Kaw, and Karen. For a previous decade we had been looking for a way to help them. Early last year, when an advertisement for one to undertake the job brought no satisfactory response, I challenged our Bangkok office manager, Nai (Mr.) Trung, to attempt a tour of the Miao, in North Siam, with a view to undertaking the translation of the Gospel of St. Mark for them. He, an Annamese, had been with us in the office for several years:

He accepted the challenge and went on a tour of exploration. A few months later he returned, and reported. Then, with his pretty Siamese wife, Maa L'mai, he went back, settled among the Miao, mastered their language, and began to teach and translate, using an adaptation of the Siamese alphabet. It was not an easy task. An epidemic of cholera, then one of malaria, forced them to become doctors and nurses. They saved many lives.

The Miao were grateful, but they are superstitious, and the spirit doctors were losing their living. So a rumor was set afloat that the spirits were angry. This aroused opposition to Trung and his wife. They were boycotted. For three months they found it hard to get food. Yao spirit doctors, more famous than the Miao, were hired to catch Trung's spirit (i. e., to kill him). But this brave couple refused

Not long after they had reached the field, a young Annamese, who had been for six years with the Yao, spoke their language fluently, and was a noted soothsayer, heard of Trung,



FRANÇOIS

visited him, and was led to become a Christian, and to throw in his lot with the Trungs. Thus it was that he, François, gave up his honored and lucrative position as a soothsayer, accepted seven ticals a month (about \$2) to do Trung's coolie work, and took up the study of Siamese and the Bible. Then he began to translate the Gospel of St. Mark into Yao. In September, the two

men made a tour of the Miao and Yao villages to enlarge their vocabularies and test out their translations.

In April, Dr. Nedergaard, of the American Presbyterian Mission, made a tour to the north, which included the Miao and Yao. He brought encouragement and needed medical help and practical advice to the hard working missionaries, and secured much information on the languages and peoples that will be valuable in our further work among the mountain tribes. He reported that the missionary work was of a high order. "Trung's home," he said, "is a



NAI TRUNG (center) TRANSLATING INTO MIAO

Conferring with local teachers

The Trungs are pictured in the May "Record," page 87



THE TRUNGS' HOME AMONG THE MIAO

Mr. and Mrs. Trung and François (left to right) between the main house and an annex

to be intimidated. Gradually the Miao became friendly again. Trung and L'mai were everything to the distracted people, and, at last, won their confidence and affection.

genuine community center." The Trungs have returned to Bangkok with the two translations. François has remained in the hills carrying on his work for the hill tribes.

Scattering Seed and Gathering Fruit

By the Rev. Hugh C. Tucker, D.D., Secretary, Brazil Agency

A COLPORTEUR of the American Bible Society had been spending a few days with a small group of believers in the city of Santos, the greatest coffee-exporting port in the world. They had come to the knowledge of Jesus through the reading and study of the Bible. The camera shows some of them. He there learned that, years ago, another colporteur had made a journey through the eastern part of the state of São Paulo south of Santos, and that a gospel work of interesting proportions had developed from the seed sowing. So he decided to visit that region, see the believers, and supply more Bibles. When his hosts and he had prayed together and commended each other to the love and care of God, he set out on his journey, which lasted 105 days, covering 354 kilometers by railroad, 460 by automobile or truck, 58 on horseback and cart, and 160 on foot.

One of the Bibles sold many years ago recently fell into the hands of a man living in a little hut far away among the hills. The colporteur, now learning of this, turned aside to visit this family and hear their story of the influence the reading of the Book had in their lives and experience, and thus he learned how they had been impressed with the reading and had come to know Jesus their Saviour. They were happy in the knowledge of His love and the experience of salvation. Thus, too, he caught a snapshot of the family (*No. 1*).

Not far away, other precious seed, sown by colporteur number one, in time had produced results; a preacher had come, the people gathered to hear, a church was organized, and the building shown was erected (*No. 2*). Many now come from long distances, some on foot, some in carts, but most of them on horseback (*No. 3*).

Some distance farther along, colporteur number two found another congregation gathered, an outgrowth of the early seed sowing. An old woman (*No. 4*) said, "Take my picture and send it to the Bible Society; for I have been greatly blessed by their work."

The colporteur reported eighteen places in the vast region visited where he found congregations of believers (*No. 5*) and churches organized. A number have their own church buildings. In one village the majority of the population are Christian believers, being about one thousand. There are few villages and towns in that region. Most of the inhabitants live on their little farms or plots of ground.

Here is a typical family and their home (*No. 6*).

The colporteur says, "I observed in all the places visited that the best social elements are among the believers. On this trip I sold 75 Bibles, 24 New Testaments, and 422 Gospels,

ON THEIR WAY TO CHURCH (*No. 3*)



A TYPICAL CONGREGATION (*No. 5*)

Center—A TYPICAL CHURCH (*No. 2*)

a total of 521, and gave to those too poor to buy, 40 copies."

Tearing Out the Leaves of a Bible for a Purpose

A colporteur met, at a place of worship, an old man, who seemed interested to talk about the love of God and the Bible. It developed that, a few years ago, a colporteur was offering

Bibles for sale. This man could not read; but, because the colporteur said the book told about God and his love for men in the gift of his Son Jesus to the world, and because the book was cheap and he felt he would like to help the colporteur, he bought a copy. He had been, previously, a very devout worshiper of saints, but observed the more he prayed to the images, the more he drank and did not improve in his moral life.

After buying the Bible, he began at once to

noticed, also, that some of those who read to him were being impressed and influenced by the Book. He then conceived the idea of tearing out a leaf or more and giving to each reader who was interested. He says his own life has been completely changed. He is happy in the knowledge of Jesus Christ as his Saviour, and has seen a number of his friends transformed in life through the reading of the leaves of this wonderful book. He said to the colporteur, "I am now ninety years old. I do not drink any



WON BY THE BOOK (No. 1)



A GRATEFUL WOMAN (No. 4)



A TYPICAL FAMILY (No. 6)

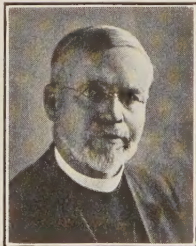
ask any friend able to read who dropped in at his house, to read to him from it. He soon felt in his own life and conduct the influence of the reading and of his thinking on the things he heard. He then began to pray to God. He

more, do not smoke, do not gamble; by the grace of God I have left off these vices. You now come with Bibles; I wish to buy a new one; for there are only a few leaves of the old one left." He obtained a new whole Bible.

From the Atlantic Agency

By the Rev. Frank P. Parkin, D.D., Secretary

IT was an old white-haired pastor who, in my youth, brought good cheer to our home, from which a sainted mother had been taken, when he said: "The promises of God are like a brilliant display of pyrotechnics in a dark night." The widespread lack of employment, reduced wages, and the closing of so many banks, with the embarrassment to churches and communities and colleges, have led millions of our fellow-citizens to turn anew to God's Inspired Volume and read with eager interest the many promises which brighten the sacred pages.



DR. PARKIN

at the head of one of the country's large chain grocery stores, last Christmastide, ordered 18,000 copies of the Book of Proverbs from our Philadelphia office, and arranged that they should be distributed with a suitable yuletide greeting to everyone in his employ. As a lover of the Inspired Book, and a consistent believer in the wisdom taught by Solomon, he chose this original method of calling attention to the value of this particular book of the Old Testament as an inspiration to youth for this period of business depression.

Never have we had so many applications from devoted laymen for copies of the Gospel of St. John, to distribute at their own expense,

The Book of Proverbs as a Christmas Gift

One of the successful Christian business men

as during the past year. Truly, "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

A Fiftieth Anniversary

In the state of New Jersey, which is a part of the Atlantic Agency, there still exist a number of county Bible societies which have already observed their one hundredth anniversaries. With the multiplication of organizations of every conceivable character, and the changes in communities that seemed inevitable, it is often difficult to maintain local Bible societies.

So, what can be more inspiring and cheering than to receive the program of the fiftieth anniversary of the Ladies' Bible Society of Johnstown, Pa., which was held on Sunday afternoon and evening, April 3, 1932. The afternoon session was held in the First Lutheran Church of Johnstown and was preceded by an informal display of antique Bibles and Biblical writings. The program that followed was of a varied and interesting character, consisting of short addresses by active members, detailing the splendid work performed by this Ladies' Bible Society during the past fifty years. The writer sent a message of greeting in behalf of the American Bible Society, which was read by the Rev. J. Walker Miller, of Pittsburgh, who, for many years, has had charge of our Bible interests in western Pennsylvania. In the evening the services were con-

tinued in the First Presbyterian Church of Johnstown, and the pastor, the Rev. Dr. R. M. Campbell, using the slides furnished by the Philadelphia office, gave the stereopticon lecture "The Old Book Finding New Friends" to the delight and profit of all.

This wide-awake society, of which the president is Miss Mary L. P. Layton, and the Morrellville Auxiliary (Miss S. Ellen Strayer, president), with all who contributed to make the semicentennial such a genuine success, are to be congratulated on the result of their efforts.

A Tried and True Supporter

In the death of the Rev. Dr. Floyd W. Tomkins, the universally esteemed rector of Holy Trinity Church, Philadelphia, which occurred on March 17 in his eighty-second year, the American Bible Society and the Pennsylvania Bible Society, of which he was a vice-president, have each sustained the loss of one of the most true and tried supporters of the Bible cause. During the thirty-three years of his rectorship at Holy Trinity, his pen and voice were always at the service of the Bible Society and every true and worthy cause. The Bible was his unquestioned authority, and his influence was ever exerted in advancing its circulation and increasing its influence throughout the city and the nation.

From Siam

By the Rev. Robert Irwin, B.D., Retired Secretary, Siam Agency

These extracts come from the annual report on the last full year of work in his beloved Siam, from the pen of Mr. Irwin.

THE year 1931 saw the completion of the translation of the Gospel of St. Mark into the languages of Miao and Yao, two related tribes in the mountains of North Siam, French Indo-China, and South China. This makes four mountain tribes supplied by the Agency with a portion of Scripture in their own tongue in the past fourteen years—four out of fifty! "There remaineth yet very much land to be possessed."

Distribution

The total circulation for the forty-one years of the Agency was 4,253,640 volumes. The circulation is mostly Tai in four dialects,—Siamese, Yuan, Lu, and Lao,—and Chinese in three dialects,—Tie Chiu, Mandarin, and Cantonese. Scriptures in over thirty other languages are handled, English leading. The distribution in 1931 was 145 Bibles, 717 Testaments, and 321,807 Portions, a considerable

drop from 1930 of 141 Bibles, 155 Testaments, and 613,163 Portions. This was owing, at least in part, to a change in method from free distribution to selling, and the long search for a way to make the change. Four supervisors stopped work, and the number of colporteurs dropped from fifty to twenty-three. Also six supervisors, whom we know are at work, have not yet reported their distribution.

It has been a genuine surprise that, in almost every part of the Agency, it has been possible to sell Scriptures. It shows that people want the Bible.

A Noteworthy Colporteur

Nang Charoen is seventy-three years of age and high-born, but, because she is a Christian, she has been cast out by her family to fend for herself. Her supervisor reports:

"Nang Charoen was gone thirteen days on one trip and sold all her books in eight villages

in Saraburi. It was necessary for her to have a guide with a big knife and a gun; for the country is infested with robbers and tigers. One day she came upon a band of eighteen robbers with knives and guns. She spent six hours talking to them, shared their noonday meal and sold them six Gospels.

"Because of robbers and tigers, after six o'clock in the evening no one goes out. It was very cold most of the time up there. She slept in her clothes, on beds the kind-hearted people gave her—but the least said about them the better. She wore out her shoes walking and must have new ones. She went to one village in a boat. It took from 6 a. m. till 4 p. m. to get there. She paid her boatman one tical and her guide two for the two days; for he had to eat and sleep too.

"The people in the eight villages were mostly Lao, but they could read the Siamese; that is, most of the men could, but not one woman in the eight villages could read.

"Nang Charoen's poor old legs were stiff with so much rough walking over clods and stones. She has been rubbing them with green oil; but she wants to start back and try again.

Her childhood was spent in that region. She says the people there have never heard of Jesus and she wants them to know him."

Other Data

The Tai Christians of far-away Northeast Yunnan, in appreciation of what the Bible Society, through its Siam Agency, has done for the Tai people of the Red River Valley, sent a contribution of Mex. \$70.

A colporteur in Siam tells of a man to whom he gave a Gospel. Meeting him later, the man wanted to return it, saying, "Take it back. It makes me feel bad." But the colporteur replied, "You are a doctor. When you find disease, do you refuse to look at it? You study to find a cure, do you not? Read more Scripture."

It is fortunate that Mr. Franklin takes office when the work is undergoing a change to meet new conditions. The change has just begun and is still fluid and easy to direct. He will not find himself handicapped by old, crystallized methods. We bespeak for Mr. Franklin the same cordial support and cooperation of all classes and nationalities that we have had for twenty-one years.

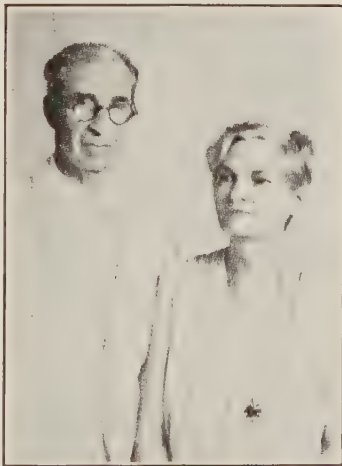
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Secretary Irwin Retires

AFTER a service in and for Siam, which began in 1890, the Rev. Robert Irwin, with Mrs. Irwin, recently passed through New York on their way to retiring on the Pacific Coast. Most of the first two decades he spent as a missionary of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., in that country. From 1911 to 1932 he has been the Secretary of the Siam Agency of our Society. Mrs. Irwin, as Dr. Mary Bowman, joined the same mission in 1896 for medical service, which she continued to render after their marriage in 1898.

Happily, they were in New York City at the time of the Annual Meeting on May 12, at which they were the honored guests, and to which they each spoke about their work in Siam, to the interest of the audience which filled the Managers' Room. The next day they were entertained by President Talcott at a luncheon attended by members of the Board, officers, and other friends.

From Siam comes record of a unique farewell service, on March 20, in one of the Pres-



REV. AND MRS. ROBERT IRWIN

byterian churches at Bangkok, where, for many years, Mr. Irwin was minister in charge of the English service. Among the features was the Scripture reading led by the Rev. Robert O. Franklin, Mr. Irwin's successor as Agency Secretary, and participated in by representatives of different nationalities reading in their own languages, into which Mr. Irwin had taken an important part in bringing about the translation or revision of the Word of God. Another feature was led by the Rev. C. R. Simmons, of the Church of England, pastor of the Union English Church, during which

gifts were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Irwin. Then two volumes were presented, one entitled "The Garden of Prayer," containing reprints of prayers gathered from those Mr. Irwin had prepared and used in his services, and another, a reprint of three sermons by Mr. Irwin, both specially printed by his friends—foreign and indigenous. It appears that the giving of a book is a special tribute in Siam.

In connection with the gifts, appreciative ad-

dressess were made by colleagues and friends, emphasizing particularly the spiritual ministry of both Mr. and Mrs. Irwin and their lives of devotion and personal charm. Summarizing something of the work of his predecessor, Mr. Franklin said in part on this occasion:

"During the years of his service as Secretary of the American Bible Society, nearly four million Bibles and portions of Scripture have been distributed in the Agency, at a total cost to the Society of almost 350,000 ticals. Mr. Irwin has traveled in all sorts of places, in all sorts of ways, and in all sorts of weather, nothing daunting the zeal of his devoted life.

"We shall remember him by many life pictures: one is his sitting with his arms about little national children, telling them beautiful Bible stories; another is his sitting with blind men, teaching them to read the Word in the Braille characters which he so laboriously worked out for them; and another we shall never forget, is his sitting with a company of

lepers about him, listening most attentively to him as he told them of the Great Physician.

"'We hear them speak in our tongue the wonderful works of God.' So said they on the day of Pentecost. It has been a peculiar pleasure to Mr. Irwin to see that Pentecostal statement come true in his work here in Siam. He has seen the entire Bible go into the Laos language, and portions of it into Tai Lu, Tai Ya, Kamu, Musso, the Yao, and the Miao, as well as the Braille. He has handled the Bible in some thirty different languages in the work of the Agency. It is a legacy of a 'work well done' that he leaves to his successor."

Mr. and Mrs. Irwin are on their leisurely way across the continent, visiting friends and relatives, with the intention of settling at Hollywood, California, near their married daughter. Their host of friends in this and other lands will wish them health and happiness in their well-earned retirement, after so many years of devoted, difficult, and fruitful work.

. . .

Can You Do This?

By the Rev. William K. Anderson, D.D., Pastor, Methodist Episcopal Church, Johnstown, Pa.

PEOPLE will still read the Bible if they are challenged to it. Before the first of January, 1931, I challenged my congregation to read the Bible through in that year. A schedule was prepared and printed on bookmarks, which were available for all who wanted one. The Bible was divided, for variety's sake, into three divisions—one beginning with Genesis, one with Ezra, and one with Matthew. Dates were designated upon which each book was to be finished, the reckoning being roughly on the basis of three and one-quarter chapters a day.

It was a heavy schedule—particularly if one fall behind. I knew that no less than 300 were starting; but how many would see it through? It was bound to be like a marathon race, with jostling at the start, many falling out along the journey, and relatively few at the finish. Occasional reference to the project in a Sunday sermon, and frequent use of the book being read at the time, as the theme for prayer-meeting talks, served to keep the interest alive and to encourage the readers.

In June came the first report of a finished task. After vacation, other names began to straggle in. As the year's end approached, they came more rapidly. To-day is January 5, and up to now ninety-two members of the congregation of Franklin Street church, Johnstown, have reported having read the whole Bible since January 1, 1931. There are still others to

come,—a little late,—but I am proud of all.

Everyone of them has derived profit from it and feels as if he or she has "done something." One person says, "I was never so happy in my life as when I finished"; another reports, "Well, I've finished, thank the Lord"; another says, "I've got a lot out of it, but never again." These sound as if they had had enough, but that is not the case; for everyone of them is taking this year's schedule—not calling for the whole Bible again, but only for one chapter a day through the New Testament, finishing September 16, and then a little more than that through the Psalms by the end of the year. This is not too much to be read in family groups, and many families will do it that way.

The response indicates that Bible reading can be brought back even in these rushing days. Dr. Rollin Walker, of Ohio Wesleyan University, speaks of Bible reading as passing through three stages: the stage when under a sense, perhaps, of compulsion; the stage when we recognize it as nourishing, but find it very dry; and the peaches and cream stage when we really enjoy it. For the average person, there is no way to arrive at the third stage without passing through the other two. I know many people who are just coming into the peaches and cream stage. A reading schedule can accomplish the same result for any individual and for many people in any congregation.

[The simpler schedule suggested by Dr. Anderson for 1932 can be used any year, so we print it here.—ED.]

Each book to be read by the date indicated.

Matthew	Jan. 28	Philemon	July 22
Mark	Feb. 13	Hebrews	Aug. 4
Luke	Mar. 8	James	Aug. 9
John	Mar. 29	I Peter	Aug. 14
Acts	Apr. 26	II Peter	Aug. 17
Romans	May 12	I John	Aug. 22
I Corinthians	May 28	II John	Aug. 23
II Corinthians	June 10	III John	Aug. 24
Galatians	June 16	Jude	Aug. 25
Ephesians	June 22	Revelation	Sept. 16
Philippians	June 26		
Colossians	June 30	Psalms—	
I Thessalonians ..	July 5	Book I (1-41)....	Oct. 14
II Thessalonians ..	July 8	Book II (42-72)..	Nov. 4
I Timothy	July 14	Book III (73-89).	Nov. 19
II Timothy	July 18	Book IV (90-106)	Dec. 2
Titus	July 21	Book V (107-150)	Dec. 31

The Bible

Uprooter of sin.
Begetter of life.
Revealer of God.
Light of intellect.
Fashioner of law.
Guide of history.
Foe to superstition.
Comfort in sorrow.
Enemy of oppression.
Strength in weakness.
Star of death's night.
Promise of the future.
Pathway in perplexity.
Escape from temptation.
Illuminator of darkness.
Secret of national progress.
Charter of all true liberty.
Forerunner of civilization.
Steadier in the day of power.
Ornament and mainspring of literature.
Moulder of institutions and governments.
Regulator of all high and worthy standards.
Answer to the deepest hungerings of the heart.
—Selected.

THE American Bible Society was instituted in 1816 with the sole object of encouraging wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures, without note or comment.

Its program is world-wide and includes the translation of the Scriptures into the languages and common dialects of the people; the publication of the Scriptures in styles suitable and convenient, and at the lowest possible cost; the distribution of the Scriptures throughout the world at cost or free, as a missionary program.

Membership in the Society consists of four classes, each with its special privileges.

Information may be obtained from The Secretaries, Bible House, Astor Place, New York City, N. Y.

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

EDITORSThe Secretaries

NEW YORK, JUNE, 1932

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

INSTITUTED 1816
Bible House, Astor Place, New York

APRIL MEETING OF THE BOARD

THE twelfth stated meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and sixteenth year was held at the Bible House, Astor Place, New York, on Thursday, April 7, 1932, at 3:30 o'clock p. m., President Talcott in the chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. James Parker, Ph.D.

The minutes of the eleventh stated meeting of the year were presented and approved; as were also minutes of the standing committees.

The death of the Rev. James H. Hyatt, D.D., former Secretary of the National Capital Agency, was recorded and a message of sympathy sent to Mrs. Hyatt.

The death of the Rev. M. G. G. Scherer, D.D., a ministerial member of the Committee on Versions, was reported and a committee was appointed to prepare a memorial minute.

On recommendation of the General Reference Committee, the Board directed that the Report of the Board of Managers be prepared by the Officers and submitted with the approval of the General Reference Committee in final page proof form at the May meeting, and submitted to the Annual Meeting in complete printed form.

In view of the trend toward reduction in income from churches and individuals, which the Officers brought to the attention of standing committees, action had been taken by the committees concerned, and recommendations were submitted to the Board in summarized form by the General Reference Committee. These recommendations, looking toward a reduction of \$45,000 in expenditures at headquarters and in the home and foreign fields of the Society during the current year, were adopted by the Board, to go into effect the first of May.

The death of Mr. William H. Faulhaber, for many years Superintendent of the Bible House, was reported and suitable action was taken.

The Treasurer reported the following consignments to the Society's Foreign Agencies

during the month of February: Brazil, 5,094 volumes, valued at \$3,619.48; Caribbean, 8 volumes, valued at \$16.66; China, 90 volumes, valued at \$144.34; La Plata, 6 volumes, valued at \$2.61; West Indies, 3,800 volumes, valued at \$1,248.41; total volumes, 8,998; total value, \$5,031.50.

The issues from the Bible House during the month of February were 276,692 volumes.

The meeting was adjourned.

MAY MEETING OF THE BOARD

THE first stated meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and seventeenth year was held at the Bible House, Astor Place, New York, on Thursday, May 5, 1932, at 3:30 o'clock p. m., President Talcott in the chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Mr. Ray Clarke Tillinghast.

The minutes of the twelfth stated meeting of the preceding year were presented and approved; as were also the minutes of the standing committees.

The Annual Report of the Board of Managers, drawn up by the Officers and indorsed by the General Reference Committee, was laid before the Board and approved for presentation to the Annual Meeting.

The Rev. Paul A. Eakin, of Bangkok, Siam, was appointed an Honorary Life Member of the American Bible Society in recognition of his labor on the Revised New Testament in Siamese.

The Rev. A. J. Allen, Acting Secretary of the Cleveland Division of the Colored Agency, was appointed Secretary of that division.

The amendment to By-Law X, second paragraph, proposed at the previous meeting, concerning the constitution of the General Reference Committee, was adopted as follows:

The several chairmen of these Committees, together with three additional members elected by the Board at the same time and in the same manner as members of other Committees, shall constitute a Committee of General Reference.

The Treasurer reported the following consignments to the Society's Foreign Agencies during the month of March: Caribbean, 25,514 volumes, valued at \$271.02; Japan, 320 volumes, valued at \$146.52; La Plata, 17,300 volumes, valued at \$5,342.77; Mexico, 26,966 volumes, valued at \$1,269.15; Upper Andes, 4,868 volumes, valued at \$1,287.79; West Indies, 1,000 volumes, valued at \$189; total volumes, 75,968, total value, \$8,506.25.

The issues from the Bible House during the month of March were 328,537 volumes.

The meeting was adjourned.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

THE one hundred and sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Society was convened at the Bible House, New York City, on Thursday, May 12, 1932, at 3:30 p. m., President J. Frederick Talcott in the chair.

By special invitation, the Rev. Robert Irwin, just arrived in New York on retirement from the Siam Agency Secretaryship, and Mrs. Dr. Irwin, were on the platform with the President. The room was well filled by Officers, members and friends of the Society, including a goodly number of the Bible House staff.

After the singing of a hymn, devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. J. L. McLaughlin, D.D., Secretary of the Northwestern Agency, former Secretary of the Philippines Agency, and in attendance at the meeting as representative of the Chicago Auxiliary Bible Society.

The President, after a brief introduction, called on Mrs. Dr. Irwin and Mr. Irwin, who each spoke interestingly on special features of the work in Siam.

After the singing of another hymn, the general audience withdrew, the members of the Society remaining for the business session.

The one hundred and sixteenth Annual Report of the Board of Managers was presented, accepted, and its printing and distribution authorized.

On nomination by the committee appointed for the purpose, the following were elected by ballot as Managers for the term 1932-1936: Roscoe C. E. Brown, Litt.D., John T. Manson, George Woolsey, M.D., Alfred Busselle, William P. Stevenson, LL.D., Wm. Albert Harbison, George Tiffany, and James T. Van Steenbergh.

Other actions were taken concerning the next Annual Meeting, the filling of vacancies of the Board, and directing the Board to meet for organization and business on the first Thursday in June.

The Rev. Henry A. Stimson, D.D., for seventy-three years a Life Member of the American Bible Society, spoke of the important work of the Society, especially in the present state of world affairs, the large responsibility of its Officers, and suggested that action be taken recognizing their fine service and devotion, and the satisfaction of the Board that the year had seen the election of a President who had entered so energetically into the responsibilities of his office. On motion, such action was taken.

After remarks by some of those present, the meeting was adjourned to meet on the second Thursday in May, 1933.

CASH RECEIPTS IN MARCH, 1932

LEGACIES

Griffin, Mrs. U. H., Oakland, Calif.	\$100 00
Johnson, Anna E., Newark, N. J.	475 00
McCarroll, George, Denver, Colo.	6,000 00
	<u>\$6,575 00</u>

Eastern	\$1,785 77
National Capital	481 73
Northwestern	2,614 52
Pacific	1,674 45
South Atlantic	1,238 67
Southwestern	1,204 29
Western	752 39
	<u>\$13,886 05</u>

Annuity Department	\$52,956 77
Appeals	1 06
Bible House Rentals	8,572 89
Bible Society Record	3 50
Blind Fund	3 78
Burr, J., Legacy Income	629 46
Diffusion of Information	8 45
Funds for Transmission	12 44
General Salaries and Expenses	5 50
Gifts for the Blind:	
From Churches	\$11 11
From Individuals	598 75

ANNUITY GIFTS

Amount received during the month	<u>\$18,650 00</u>
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AUXILIARY SOCIETIES

	Rec'd on Donation Acct.	Rec'd on Book Acct.
Bible Soc. of Maine		\$86 63
Chicago Bible Society, Ill.	\$75 70	
Connecticut		22 83
First Welsh of Blue Earth Co., Minn.	65 00	4 94
Massachusetts	30 00	100 00
Nashville, Tenn.		21 50
New York		92 28
Rhode Island		16 73
St. Louis, Mo.		144 19
Wayne Co., Welsh, Neb.	30 75	
	<u>\$489 10</u>	
Received on Donation Acct.	201 45	
	<u>\$690 55</u>	

Included in Above Home Agencies' Receipts

Donations from Auxiliary Bible Societies:	
Pennsylvania	\$347 50
Gifts from Churches	76 82
Gifts from Individuals	260 84
	<u>\$685 16</u>

RETURNS FROM SCRIPTURES DONATED

Board of National Missions, Presbyterian Church	<u>\$6 99</u>
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RECAPITULATION

Legacies	\$6,575 00
Annuity Department	18,650 00
Auxiliary Societies, Donation Account	201 45
Auxiliary Societies, Book Account	489 10
Home Agencies	13,886 05
Returns from Scriptures Donated	6 99
	<u>\$39,808 59</u>

Gifts from Churches	609 86
Gifts from Individuals	7,322 29
Huston, Charlesanna, Legacy Fund Income	10,648 72
Income from Available Investments	1,570 00
Income from Legacies and Gifts, Trust Funds	4,582 78
Legacy Equalization	2,466 76
Manufacturing Credits	4,130 50
Misc. Home Contingent	1,082 34
Ogg, Alex W., Legacy Income	21 43
Pension Reserve Fund	249 68
Pensions	708 84
Sage Bible House	6 30
Special Annuity Income and Expense	31,031 60
The Trade	161 00
United States Trust Co., Available Investments	277 97
Wragg, J. P. and J. E. Fund Investment	14,228 06
	<u>60 00</u>

\$141,367 12

HOME AGENCIES

Atlantic	\$2,274 68
Central	1,183 52
Colored	676 03

MISCELLANEOUS

Alden Memorial Fund Income	<u>\$15 14</u>
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Total Cash Receipts \$181,175 71

CASH STATEMENT FOR MARCH, 1932

GENERAL CASH STATEMENT

Receipts		Disbursements	
Balance from February, 1932	\$25,190 46	Bills of Exchange	\$13,272 00
Home Agencies	13,886 05	General Salaries and Expenses	4,339 32
Auxiliaries	489 10	Treasurer's Office—Salaries and Expenses	1,325 14
Trade	277 97	Bible House Expenses	5,602 32
Manufacturing Credits	1,082 34	Appeals	3,345 02
Bible Society Record	3 50	Diffusion of Information	2,130 76
Bible House Rentals	8,572 89	Annuity Department	28,419 65
Gifts from Auxiliaries	201 45	Bible Society Record	234 09
Gifts from Churches	7,322 29	Blind Fund	100 00
Gifts from Individuals	10,648 72	Cash reserved for Publication Department	45,000 00
Gifts for Distribution to Blind	609 86	Home Agencies	10,871 60
Annuity Account	52,956 77	Foreign Agencies	5,460 57
Legacies	6,575 00	Funds received for Transmission	5 00
Income from Legacies and Gifts—Trust Funds	2,466 76	United States Trust Co.—Available Investments	9,869 02
Income from Available Investments	4,582 78	United States Trust Co.—Annuity Account	40,000 00
Alden Memorial Fund Income	15 14	Foreign Agencies Salaries Contingent	750 00
Burr Legacy Income	629 46	Miscellaneous Home Contingent	123 02
Sage Bible House Fund Income	31,031 60	Miscellaneous Foreign	355 44
Charlesanna Huston Legacy Fund Income	1,570 00	Church Budget Costs	258 20
Alex. W. Ogg Legacy Income	249 68	Legacy Expenses	10 00
Wragg, Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Fund Invested	60 00	Library	73 33
Miscellaneous Home Contingent	21 43	Pensions	396 74
Blind Fund	3 78	Pension Reserve Fund	117 50
United States Trust Co., Available Investments	14,228 06	Income from Legacies and Gifts—Trust Funds	765 00
Legacy Equalization Fund	4,130 50	Special Annuity Income and Expense	124 00
Funds Received for Transmission	12 44	Plate Account—New Versions	12 54
Special Annuity Income and Expense	161 00	Rio Bible House	2,281 47
Pensions—Income and Expense	6 30	Translation and Revision	123 26
Pension Reserve Fund	708 84	Balance to April, 1932	31,001 18
General—Salaries and Expenses	5 50		
Appeals	1 06		
Diffusion of Information	8 45		
Annuity Department	18,650 00		
Returns from Scriptures Donated	6 99		
	<u>\$206,366 17</u>		<u>\$206,366 17</u>

PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT CASH STATEMENT

Balance from February, 1932	\$8,998 45	Publication Department	\$62,555 82
Transferred from General Cash	45,000 00	Balance to April, 1932	3,442 63
Transferred from Investment Account	12,000 00		
	<u>\$65,998 45</u>		<u>\$65,998 45</u>

Total Cash Balance \$34,443 81

THUS DO OUR FRIENDS STAND BY

"My allowance is just half what it was last year, but discouraged and distressed hearts need the Word and I'm glad to have even a little to contribute."

"I felt I could not contribute to the Bible Society this year owing to sickness and unusual expenses. But I consider it such a wonderful cause that I will make every self denial and send this small amount."

"My heart is with you and, while I am in a serious condition of health, and my husband has had to go to the hospital again for an operation, I am going to part with the enclosed even if I have to sacrifice. I am nearly 78 years old."

"The enclosed amount was contributed by a group of women who are making a systematic study of the Bible and who meet each week for that purpose. It is not much but it represents a sacrifice by each of us at this time. We like to feel that we are having a part in your great work."

In spite of such loyalty, and in the face of unequalled opportunities, our income from living donors is greatly below that of a year ago.

Contributions, large and small, are earnestly solicited and may be sent to

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

Bible House, Astor Place, New York, N. Y.